



ft Hudson Highlands
Fjord Trail

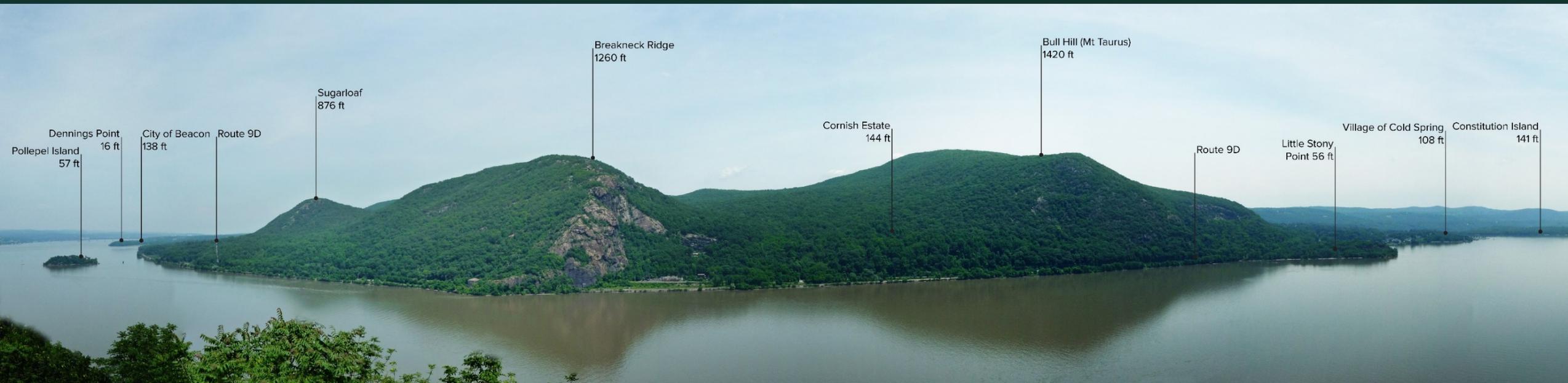
Agenda

Project Background

- 2007 Feasibility Study
- 2015 Master Plan
- 2020 Master Plan (update)

Beyond Master Plan: Design Development

Staying Informed and Ways to Get Involved



Who – When – Why?

Who: Cold Spring /Philipstown Residents

When: Circa 2006

Why:

Concern over hikers walking down Route 9D – someone was going to get hurt!

Early goal:

- Provide a safe walking route from Cold Spring to Breakneck/Wilkinson



Project Background (2006-2011)

Steering Committee

Communities



Local Groups and Non-profits

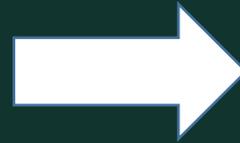


Property Owners



2006
Route 9D Scenic
Byway Corridor
Study

2007
Hudson Fjord/Hike-
Bike Feasibility
Study



Understand
need for a
Master Plan

Gaining Momentum



2015 Master Plan

Who: Steering Committee

Why:

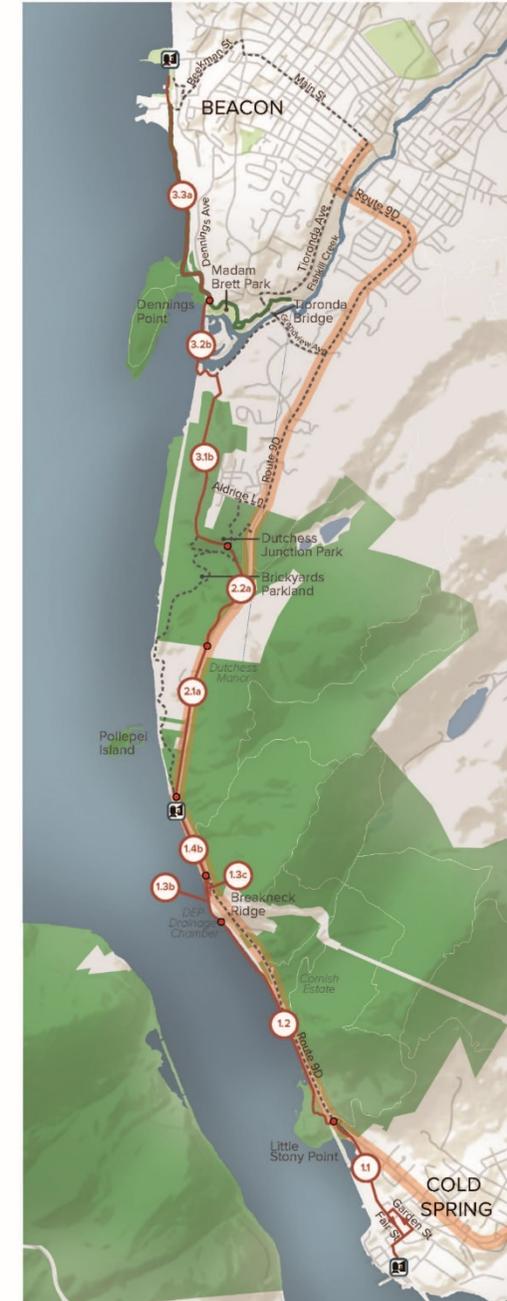
- Concern over hikers walking down Route 9D – someone was going to get hurt!
- Concern about overuse of Breakneck Trail (erosion, trail spreading, graffiti, etc.)
- Interest in making 9D safer for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers
- Interest in connecting all the way to Beacon

Goals at the time:

- Provide a safe walking and cycling route from Cold Spring to Beacon
- Improve safety at the Breakneck Station and Trailhead
- Help boost visitation to Cold Spring Main Street so community receives some benefit

Project Background 2012-2016

HUDSON HIGHLANDS FJORD TRAIL MASTER PLAN



- Routes considered
- Preferred route
- Change in route segment
- Parkway traffic calming: shoulder bicycle lanes (5'), coordinated banners/gateway/wayfinding signage

- 3.3a Existing trail network**
Route trail along existing paths
- 3.2b MNR Causeway**
Multi-use trail over the existing, unused MNR causeway
- 3.1b Brickyard Parkland**
Multi-use trail through wooded area to the Fishkill Creek
- 2.2a Brickyard Parkland to Dutchess Junction Park (eastern upland route)**
Multi-use trail at grade passing over two streams on bridges, benched into slopes or on structure over extremely steep grades
- 2.1a Breakneck Ridge Station to Brickyard Parkland**
Buffer separated multi-use trail along west side of Route 9D, requires new roadway alignment
- 1.4b Breakneck Connector (2014 CFA application)**
Multi-use trail partly on structure and partly at grade
- 1.3c Bike-Ped bridge over railroad tracks**
ADA compliant crossing over the railroad tracks
- 1.3b Breakneck Headlands/Shoreline**
Multi-use path at grade; scramble and/or stair connection to Breakneck Ridge trail
- 1.2 Shoreline between Little Stony Point and Breakneck Ridge**
Multi-use path along river's edge including at-grade asphalt path and structures over water
- 1.1 Cold Spring Station to Little Stony Point**
Shared lane markings, sidewalks, signage; Multi-use path at grade in Little Stony Point

For planning purposes
Concepts not based on survey

Communities



Local Groups and Non-profits



Property Owners



River-Focused Groups



Public Workshops

Four workshops, 150-200/meeting



Steering Committee

10 meetings/year each year



Public Input

**HUDSON HIGHLANDS FJORD TRAIL
MASTER PLAN**

**WE NEED
YOUR INPUT!**

Please visit the project website to:

- View information and maps of the draft preferred route
- Take a survey to tell us your thoughts on what is proposed

TAKE THE SURVEY!

www.hudsonfjordtrail.org

Public Surveys

Master Plan survey - 564 responses, mostly local

Visitor Survey

Routes through Cold Spring Survey (via Mayor's office)



Website

Donate Now!

HOME | CONSTRUCTION UPDATES | ABOUT | PLAN YOUR VISIT | CONTACT

Latest News: Environmental Review Public Comment Period Now Open
RFP for consultant services to complete the GEIS and Riverfront Trail Engineering

Sign up for Updates
Want to receive an email when public meetings are planned? Interested in having major project updates sent to your inbox? Join our e-mail list!

Community Events
View workshop announcements as well as materials from past workshops.

Support the Trail
Learn more about different ways you can help support the trail project.

Facebook

JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY MEETING

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW IS NOW GETTING UNDERWAY

LEARN
What will be covered in the environmental review
Timeline to completion, including opportunities for public comment

WHEN
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14
6:30-8:30 PM

WHERE
DUTCHESS MANOR
263 RTE 9D
BEACON

SHARE
Review comments received to date and make your own to help ensure a thorough process

What will the Breakneck Connector trail look like? Help decide!

Join us for a **Public Workshop**

Monday, June 27
The Chalet on Route 9D
6:30-8:30 pm

Learn about the planned improvements
See three options for how the trail might look
Provide input to help select the final design

www.hudsonfjordtrail.org

Small Presentations/Events

- Village of Cold Spring Board
- Town of Philipstown Board
- City of Beacon Council
- Town of Fishkill Board
- Cold Spring Chamber Breakfast
- LSPCA Board
- Friends of Fahnestock Board
- HHLT Board
- Philipstown Trails Committee

Explore Main Street

THE SPRING SIP & SHOP

Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail logo

Bubbly Prizes Tastings

Main Street, Cold Spring Village
Saturday, June 17, 2017
2 – 6 p. m.

15+ RESTAURANTS & SHOPS

Outreach and Communications



Washburn Parking Lot



Improvements Made

Philipstown, Putnam County, OPRHP, DOT, Scenic Hudson



Better Wayfinding for Trails



Trail Stewards Program (since 2014)

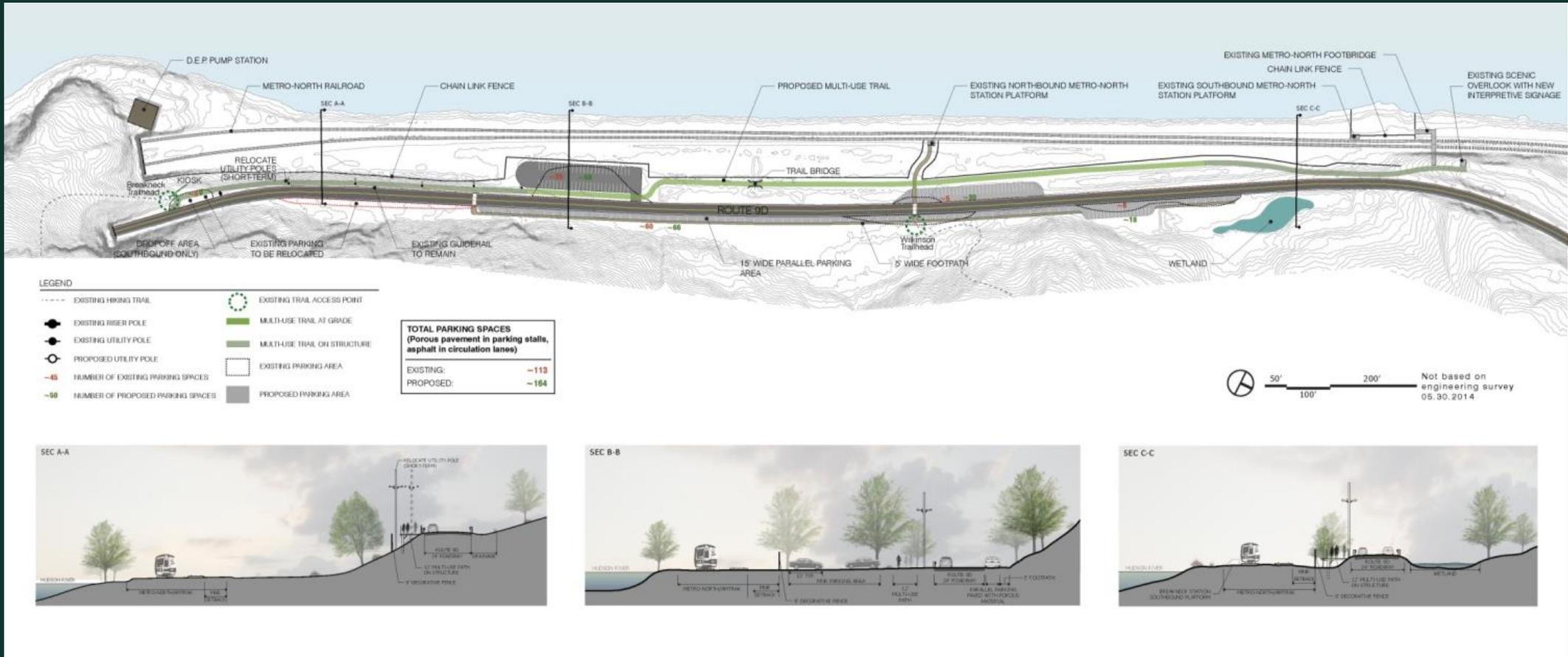


Improvements Made

NY-NJ Trail Conference, OPRHP, HHLT, Scenic Hudson



Breakneck Connector (2017)



Planning Some Improvements...

Design Committee: Steering Committee plus Cold Spring Fire Department



So what happened in 2016-2017?

ft

Completed SEQRA Environmental Review under Town of Fishkill Lead Agency (Negative Declaration)

Went to bid via Town of Fishkill – low response rate, high cost

1. Failed bid process



Cold Spring, New York's Breakneck Ridge:

If you're around, or want to take a ride up on the Hudson line, it's no secret that Breakneck Ridge is THE best hike in town. Heck, Newsweek magazine listed it as one of the top ten hikes in the United States.

— [ExploreHudsonValley.com](https://www.explorehudsonvalley.com)



2. Breakneck Ridge Goes Viral

The secret was out...



GEIS (SEQRA) Environmental Review Kickoff Workshop

When: 2017

What was completed?

- Consultant hired (AKRF)
- Lead Agency Declared (OPRHP)
- Scoping document prepared (available online)
- Public Workshop Held

What We Heard

- Main Street too crowded, route people away from Main Street
- Fair Street too impacted, conditions unsafe for kids
- Design should be sustainable and restore landscape where possible
- Fjord Trail design should complement the beauty of landscape
- More access to river!

3. Public frustration re: Village visitation –
request to revisit routes





Updating the Master Plan



2020 Master Plan

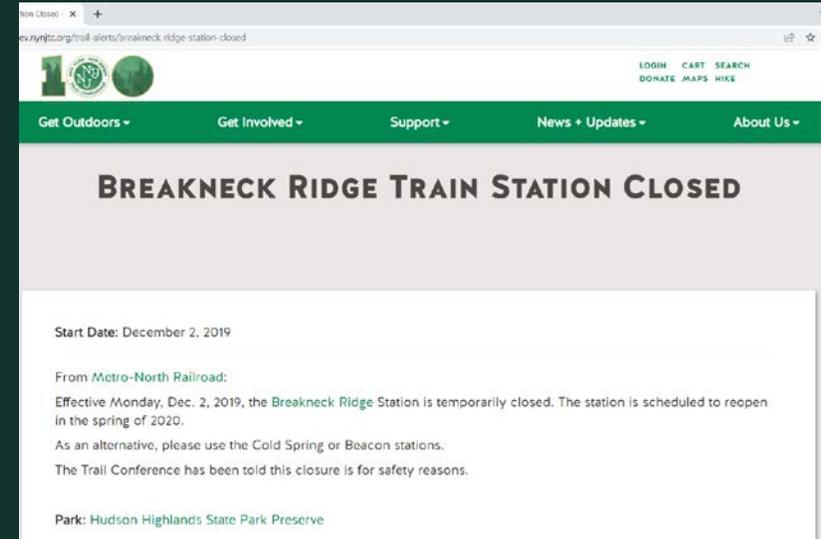
Who: Steering Committee

Why:

- More hikers than ever before – more impacts, local frustration
- Need for more management infrastructure to protect quality of life and environment
- Desire to offer benefit for residents (social, recreational, educational)

Evolving goals:

- Provide a safe *accessible* walking and cycling route from Cold Spring to Beacon
- Improve safety at the Breakneck Station and Trailhead
- Help MANAGE visitation to Cold Spring and 9D corridor and Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve



Project Background (2018-2020)



Communities



Local Groups and Non-profits



Property Owners



River-Focused Groups



Public Workshops

Two workshops, 150-200/meeting



Exploring the New Vision The Fjord Trail Master Plan
STAY IN THE KNOW!

- Updating www.hudsonfjordtrail.org website (fall 2020 launch)
- Regular e-blasts, Facebook, Instagram Sign up today!
- Join the next webinar in August!
- Contact us: hudsonfjordtrail@scenichudson.org

zoom
44:44 / 1:05:32
YouTube

Steering Committee

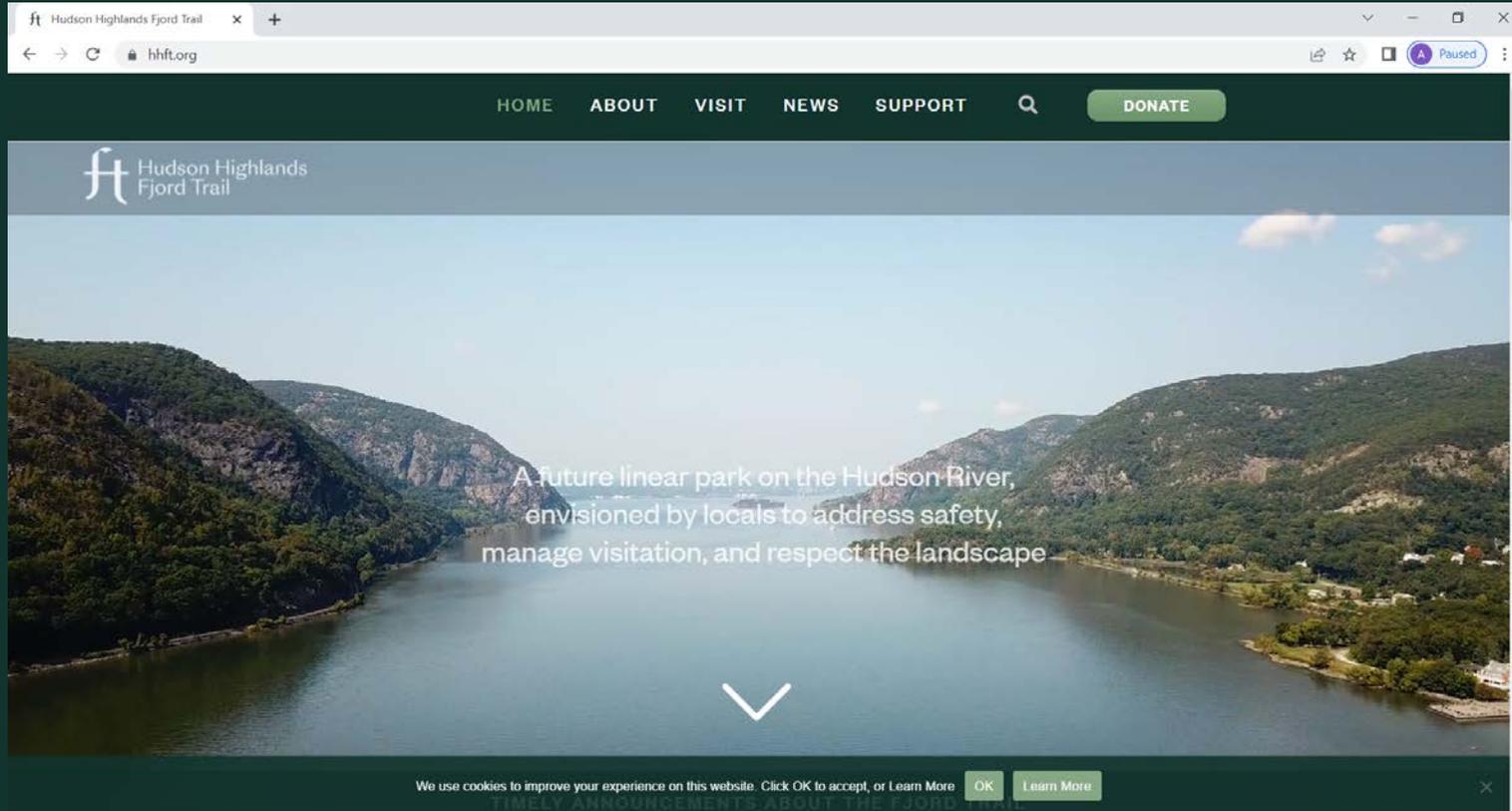
Met every 2 months in the update process



Public Input

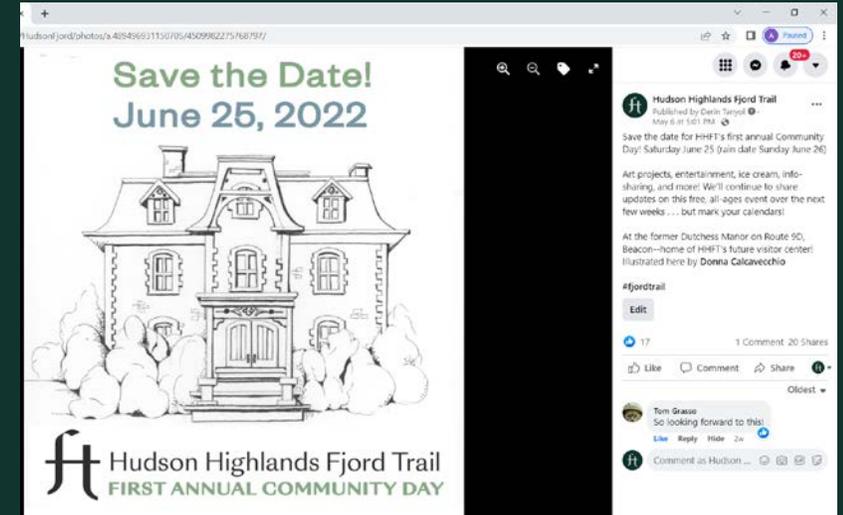


Website



Outreach and Communications

Facebook & Instagram



Small Presentations/Events

- Village of Cold Spring Board
- Town of Philipstown Board
- Philipstown Recreation Commission
- City of Beacon Council
- Town of Fishkill Board
- Cold Spring Chamber Breakfast
- Friends of Fahnestock and HH Board
- LSPCA Board
- HHLT Board Chair and ED
- Philipstown Trails Committee





2020 Plan Update:
How did we approach the design?





SOUTH BOUND TRACKS

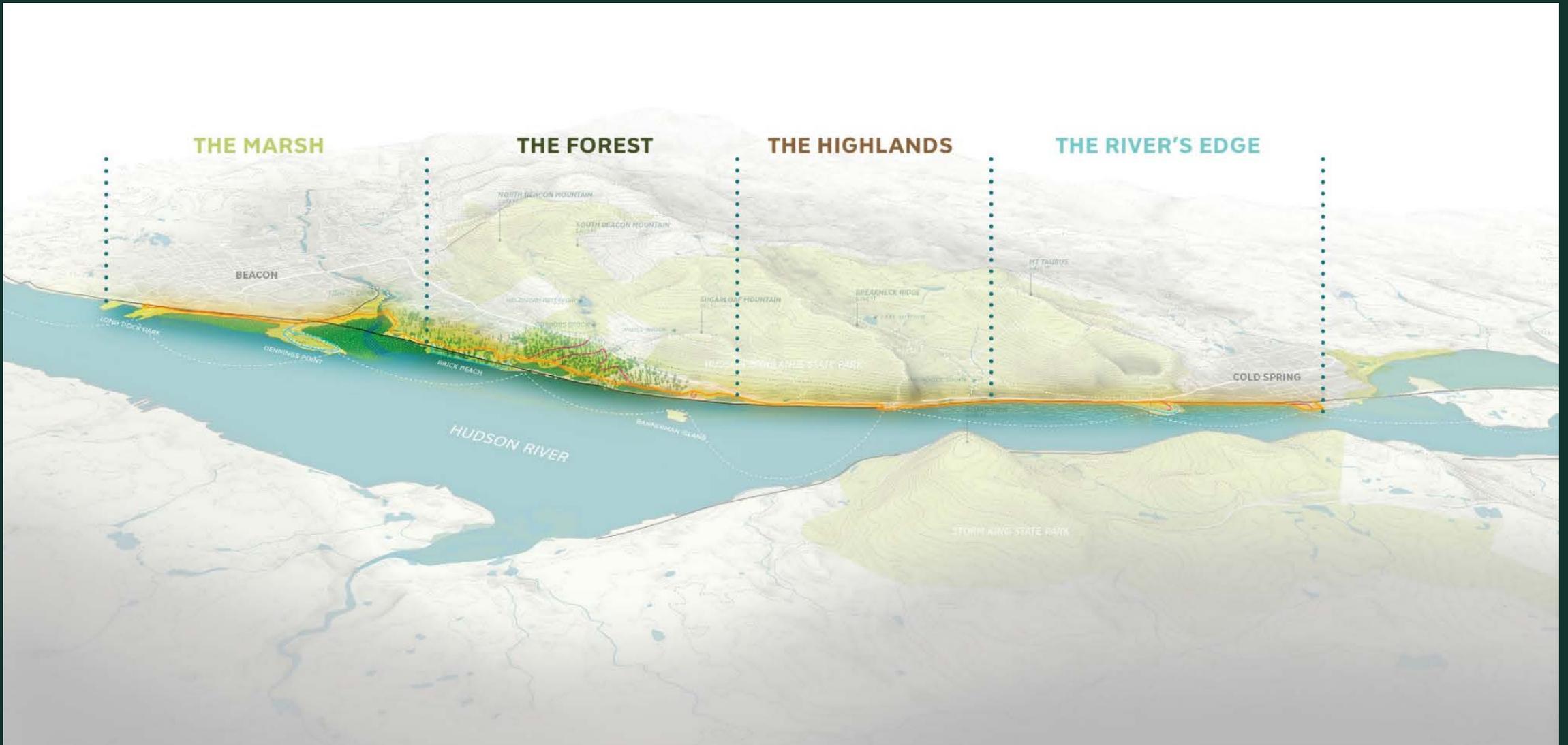
An Opportunity to Improve Design





Design should be worthy of the landscape

ft



Focus on ecology

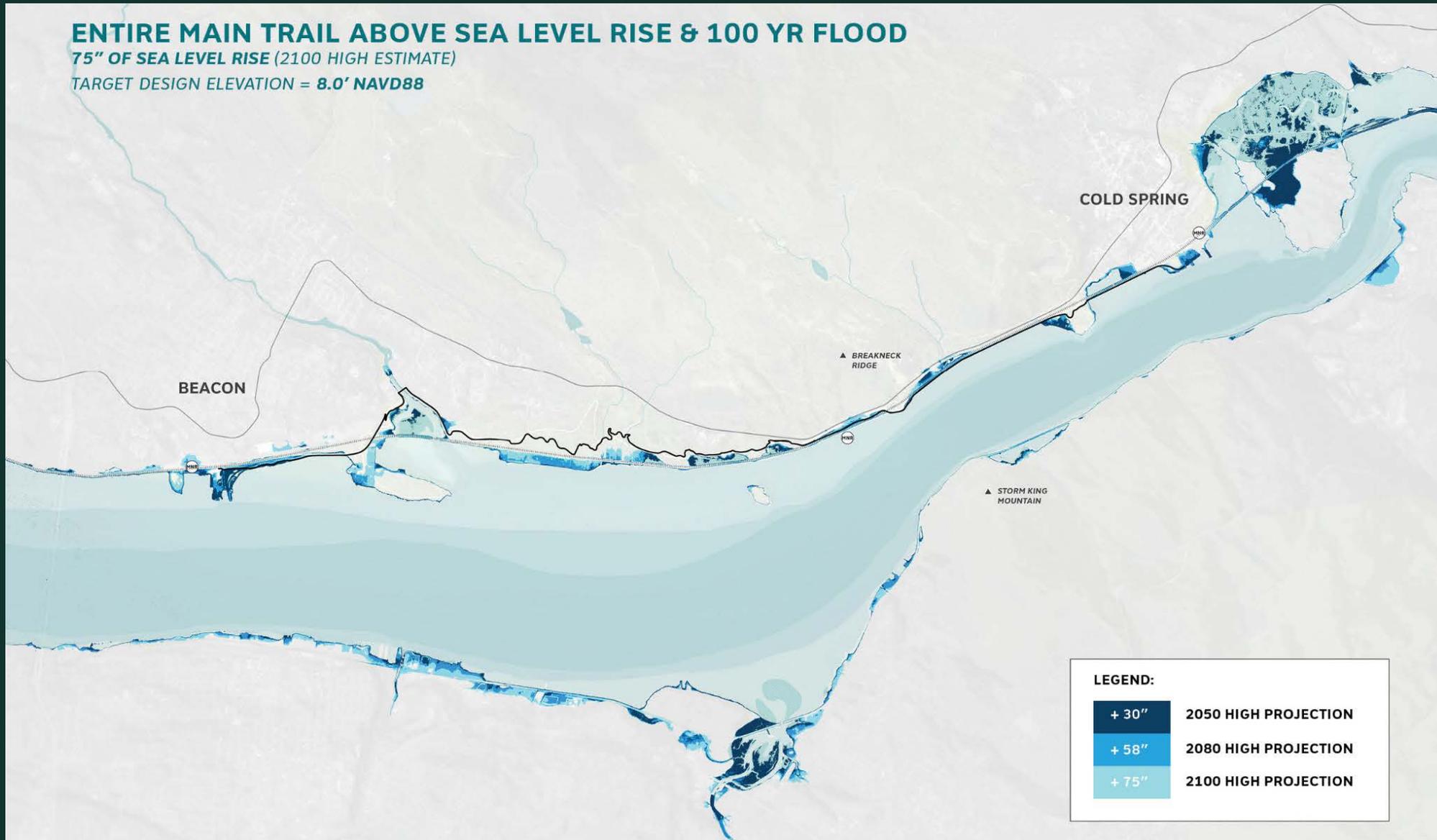
The landscape changes over the 7.5 miles. Heal and Reveal



ENTIRE MAIN TRAIL ABOVE SEA LEVEL RISE & 100 YR FLOOD

75" OF SEA LEVEL RISE (2100 HIGH ESTIMATE)

TARGET DESIGN ELEVATION = 8.0' NAVD88



The threat of sea level rise and its effects on the Hudson River have been carefully considered in planning and design.

Design for sea level rise



Organize and control Route 9D/Breakneck Station



Restore Breakneck Trailhead



Improve safety &
Restore and protect the landscape





Manage visitation

The #1 thing HHFT can do to protect the landscape is to keep people on the trail.

-- Ecology Working Group



Little Stony Point



Dockside Park



Design with the community in mind

Visitation is happening, how can the management strategy provide specific resources to locals?



Dutchess Manor



Forest Canopy Walk @ Notch



Design with the community in mind

Create some destinations north to keep pressure off Village and spread people out





What stayed the same? What changed?



What stayed the same?





LONG DOCK PARK

DOCKSIDE

Its still a trail

Connecting the Village of Cold Spring to the City of Beacon





It's still intended for bikes and pedestrians

The main trail is planned to be ADA compliant with ample room for walkers, joggers and cyclists. At each trailhead, it will include restrooms, trash/recycle bins, a bike tune-up station, and bike racks.



CONNECTORS



Trail connects to hiking trailheads

Connecting to four trails in HHSP.



Weekend Only

Actual

Potential/Planned



Beacon Train Station

200

Notch Trailhead

200

Dutchess Manor

200

Breakneck Ridge

113

Little Stony Point/Washburn

55

Cold Spring Train Station

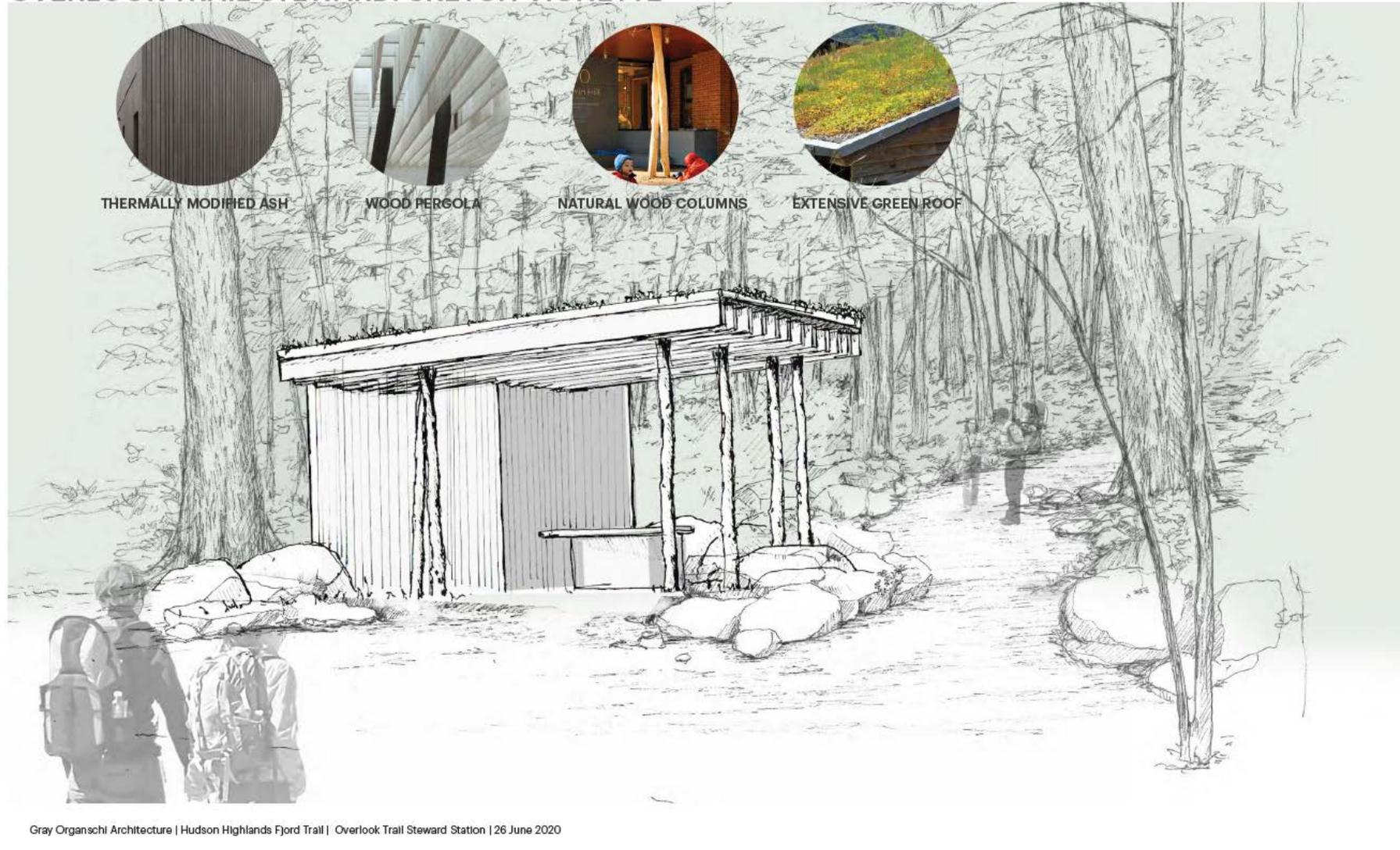
200

Parking locations

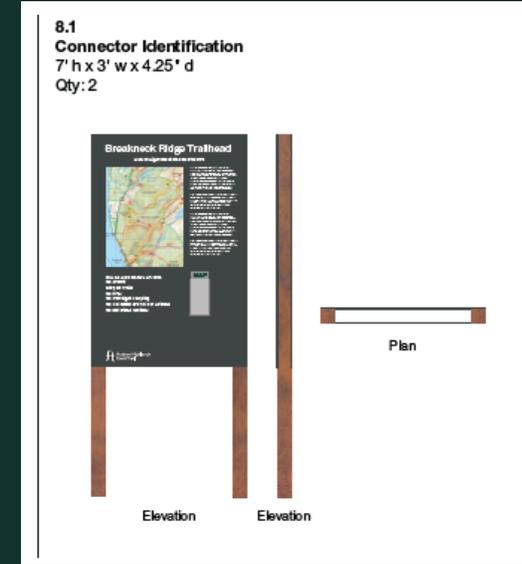
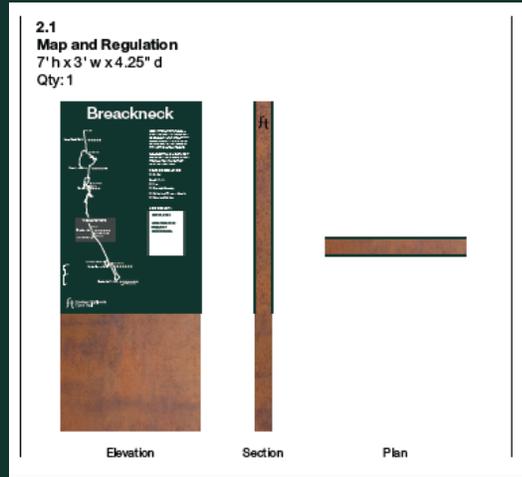
And the idea that a shuttle should help move people through the system



OVERLOOK TRAIL STEWARD: SKETCH VIGNETTE



Gray Organschi Architecture | Hudson Highlands Fjord Trail | Overlook Trail Steward Station | 26 June 2020



Visitor orientation – Stewards and signs



What changed?



Route through Village

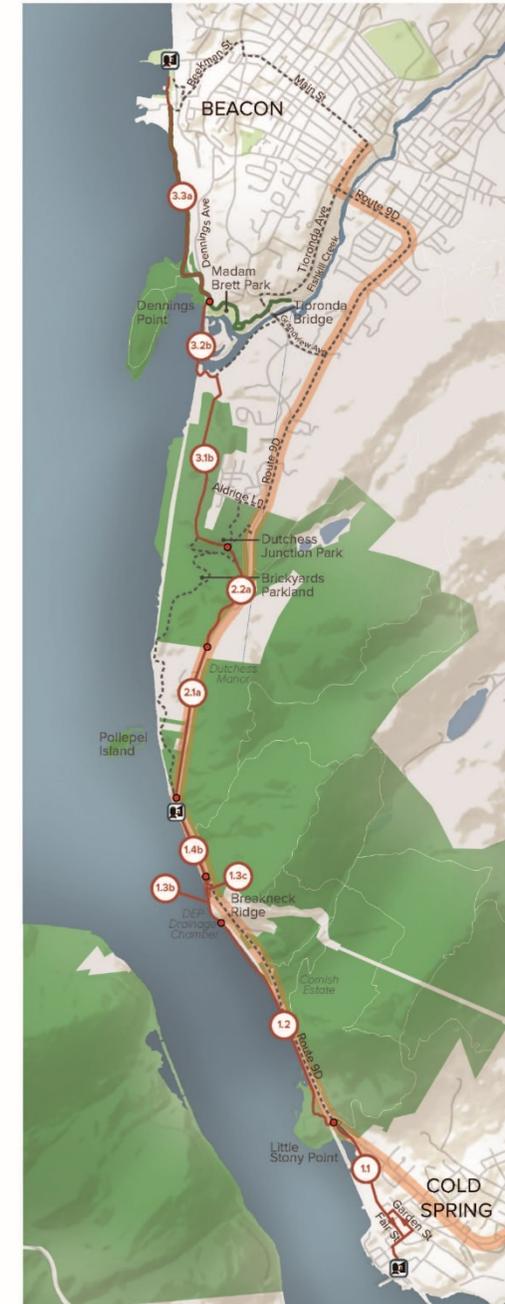


Route
Alternatives Analysis
(Included in
Environmental Review)



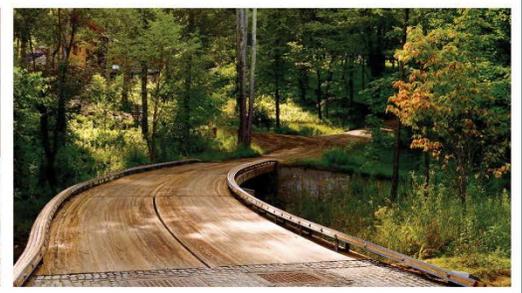
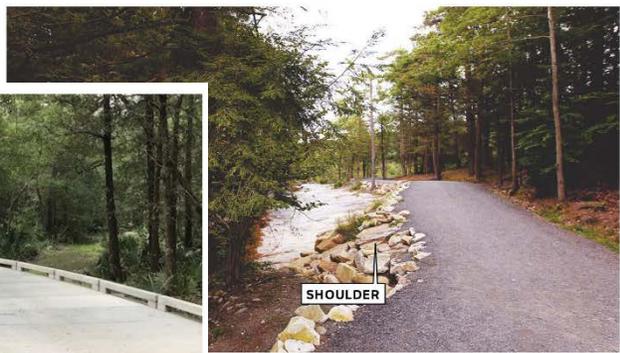
Route through Forest

HUDSON HIGHLANDS FJORD TRAIL MASTER PLAN



- Routes considered
- Preferred route
- Change in route segment
- Parkway traffic calming: shoulder bicycle lanes (5'), coordinated banners/gateway/wayfinding signage

- 3.3a Existing trail network**
Route trail along existing paths
- 3.2b MNR Causeway**
Multi-use trail over the existing, unused MNR causeway
- 3.1b Brickyard Parkland**
Multi-use trail through wooded area to the Fishkill Creek
- 2.2a Brickyard Parkland to Dutchess Junction Park (eastern upland route)**
Multi-use trail at grade passing over two streams on bridges, benched into slopes or on structure over extremely steep grades
- 2.1a Breakneck Ridge Station to Brickyard Parkland**
Buffer separated multi-use trail along west side of Route 9D, requires new roadway alignment
- 1.4b Breakneck Connector (2014 CFA application)**
Multi-use trail partly on structure and partly at grade
- 1.3c Bike-Ped bridge over railroad tracks**
ADA compliant crossing over the railroad tracks
- 1.3b Breakneck Headlands/Shoreline**
Multi-use path at grade; scramble and/or stair connection to Breakneck Ridge trail
- 1.2 Shoreline between Little Stony Point and Breakneck Ridge**
Multi-use path along river's edge including at-grade asphalt path and structures over water
- 1.1 Cold Spring Station to Little Stony Point**
Shared lane markings, sidewalks, signage; Multi-use path at grade in Little Stony Point



Paving materials— from Asphalt to Natural





Designing for all ages and abilities

ft

DRIFTWOOD PLAY

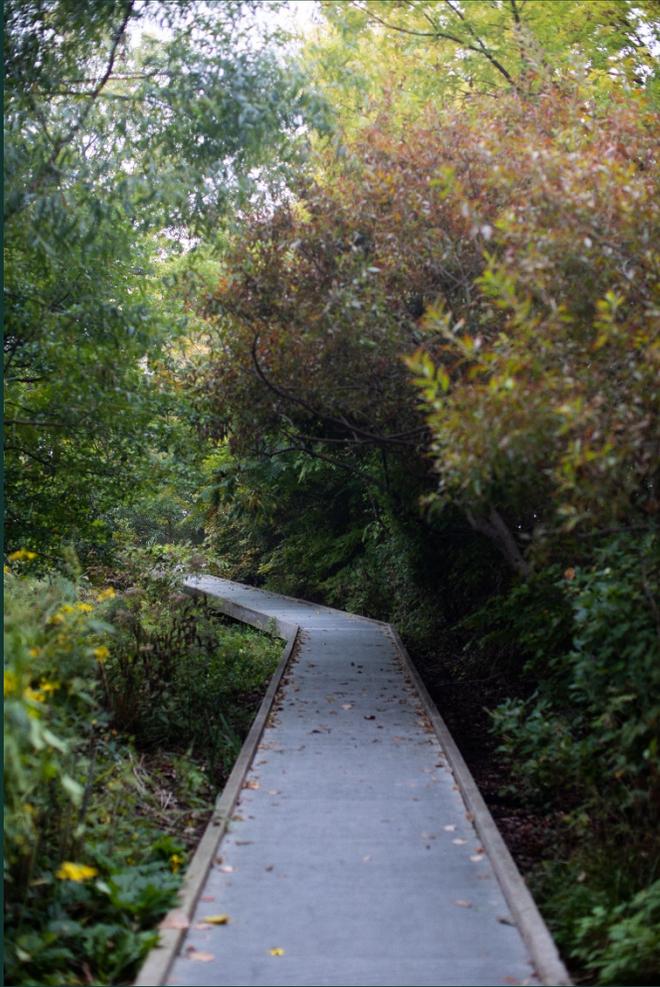


THE FJORD TRAIL: MASTER PLAN
October 15, 2019



Designing for all ages and abilities





Includes spots to rest or explore

Engaging different ages and abilities in each of the landscape zones



Includes restrooms
and garbage bins



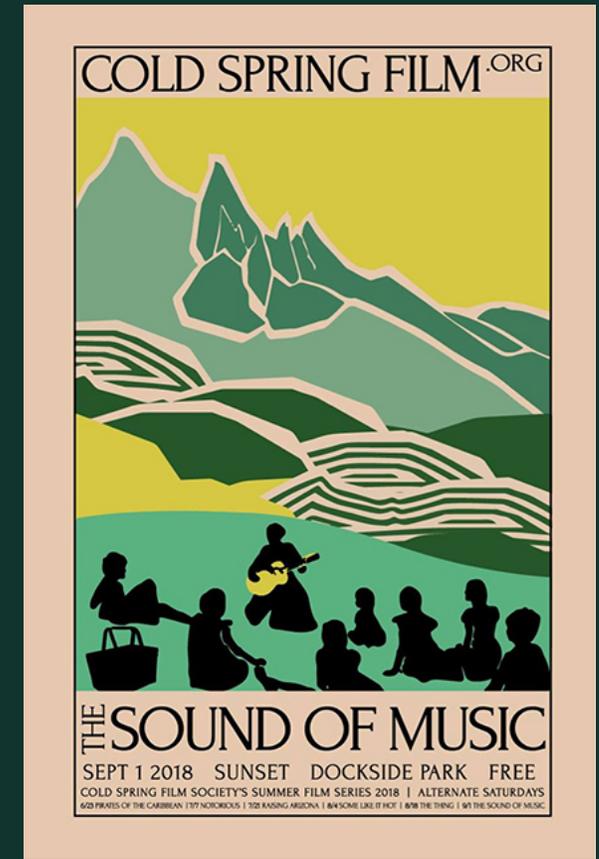
And an entity
responsible to
manage and
maintain them

ft

Education



Community activities and Events



Includes spaces that accommodate historic uses
by community

Current Status

ft

Community & Stakeholder Input

Past visioning sessions and presentations on current revised plan:

July 21, 2020 -- Exploring the New Vision #1: The Fjord Trail Master Plan public webinar

September 24, 2020 -- Exploring the New Vision #2: The Breakneck Connector & Bridge public webinar

August 18, 2021 – HHFT stakeholder meeting: Haldane Principal Julia Sniffin

January 5, 2022 -- HHFT stakeholder meetings:

Philipstown Supervisor John Van Tassel

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries

January 13, 2022 -- HHFT Stakeholder meetings:

Cold Spring Mayor Kathleen Foley, Putnam Leg. Nancy Montgomery, State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, OPRHP Taconic Reg. Dir. Linda

Cooper

Beacon City Manager Chris White

January 28, 2022 -- HHFT stakeholder meeting: Lenape Center

February 10, 2022 -- HHFT stakeholder meeting: Hudson Highlands Land Trust

March 6, 2022 -- HHFT stakeholder presentation: Friends of Fahnestock & Hudson Highlands State Park

March 17, 2022 -- HHFT Steering Committee meeting

March 23, 2022 – HHFT public presentation: Town of Philipstown

March 27, 2022 -- HHFT information table at Little Stony Point Citizens Association Maple Syrup Day

April 4, 2022 – HHFT stakeholder meeting: City of Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou

April 13, 2022 – HHFT stakeholder public presentation: Town of Fishkill

April 19, 2022 -- HHFT stakeholder presentation: Cold Spring Area Chamber of Commerce breakfast

April 28, 2022 – HHFT stakeholder meeting: Lenape Center

May 17, 2022 -- HHFT stakeholder public presentation: Philipstown Trails Committee



The Nimham Trail

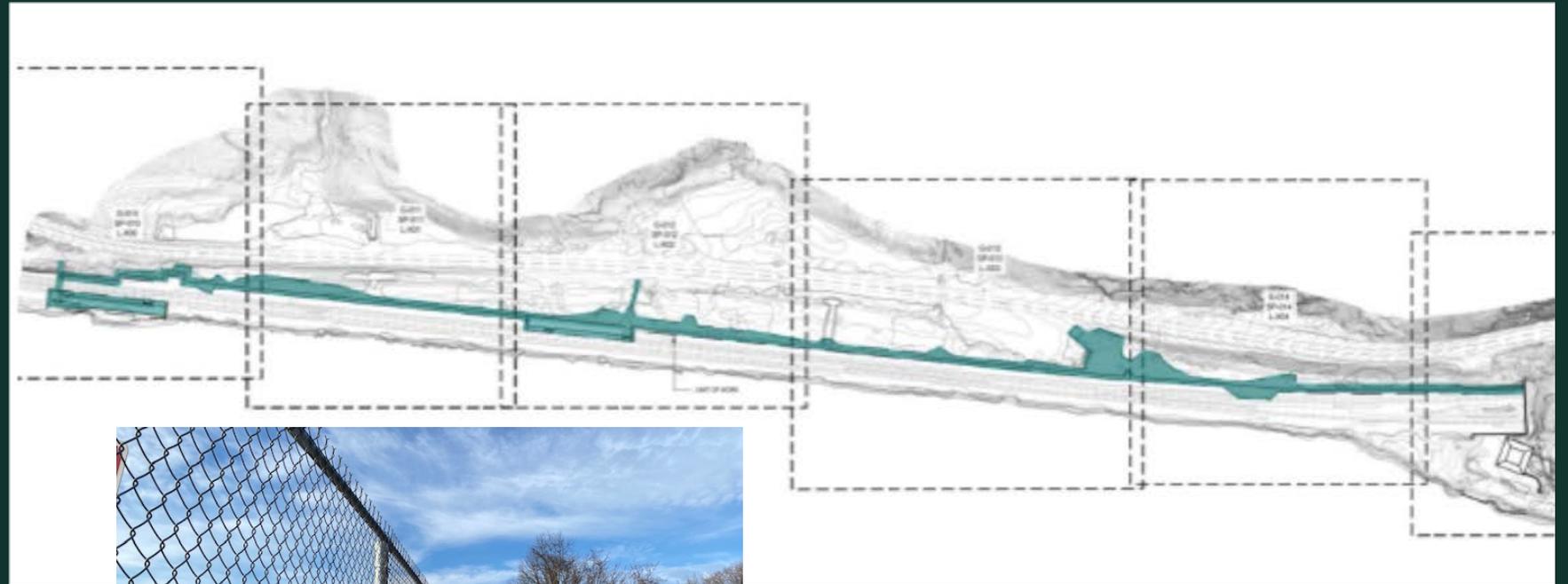
- Completed July 2021
- A rugged meander that creates a safe and pleasant way to access viewsheds along Breakneck Ridge
- Creates a rational loop for hikers using the Breakneck scramble to ascend
- Fewer hikers bushwhacking down the ridge
- Breakneck now one-way



Improvements Made

Early Safety Improvements: Breakneck Station

- Completed in March 2022
- A partnership project between HHFT and Metro-North Railroad
- New access pathway to/from station
- Fencing between tracks and trail pathway
- Wayfinding signage



Improvements Made

Draft Master Plan in Environmental Review

SEQRA Underway on updated master plan

State Parks still Lead Agency

Breakneck Connector still going ahead – Independent Utility

Draft GEIS with site specific EIS on shoreline trail will be out for public review in a few months

- 30 day minimum time for public review followed by a public hearing
- Village is on the Interested and Involved list





Breakneck Connector Moving Forward

Separate Environmental Review – Independent Utility



Target Dates:

Fall/Winter 2022: Breakneck Connector -- Upper Overlook Construction Begins

Early 2023: Breakneck Connector & Bridge Construction Begins (trailhead is closed until completion)
Dutchess Manor renovation begins

Early 2025: HHFT Breakneck Connector & Bridge and HHFT Visitor Center at
Dutchess Manor are completed and open to the public

Full shuttle service begins

Anticipated
2024:

Shoreline Trail construction start, Little Stony Point and Dockside Park enhancements



The process ahead:

Moving from Master Plan to Site Plan



Little Stony Point

Focus Groups

September 28, 2021 -- Visioning Session on HHFT Little Stony Point amenities w/ Parks Staff & LSPCA representatives

Stakeholder public presentation: Philipstown Recreation Commission

October 14, 2021 -- Visioning Session on HHFT Little Stony Point amenities w/ community stakeholders: arts/ well-being programs/scouts/youth engagement

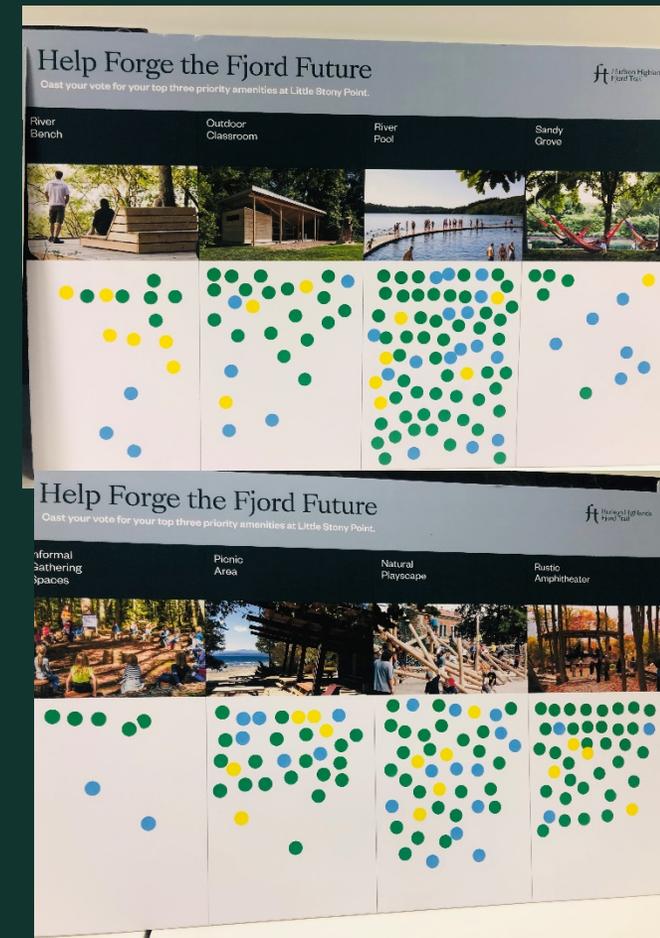
October 19, 2021 -- Visioning Session on HHFT Little Stony Point amenities w/ community stakeholders: local educators

February 9, 2022 – Visioning Session on HHFT Little Stony Point amenities with design team and LSP design steering group

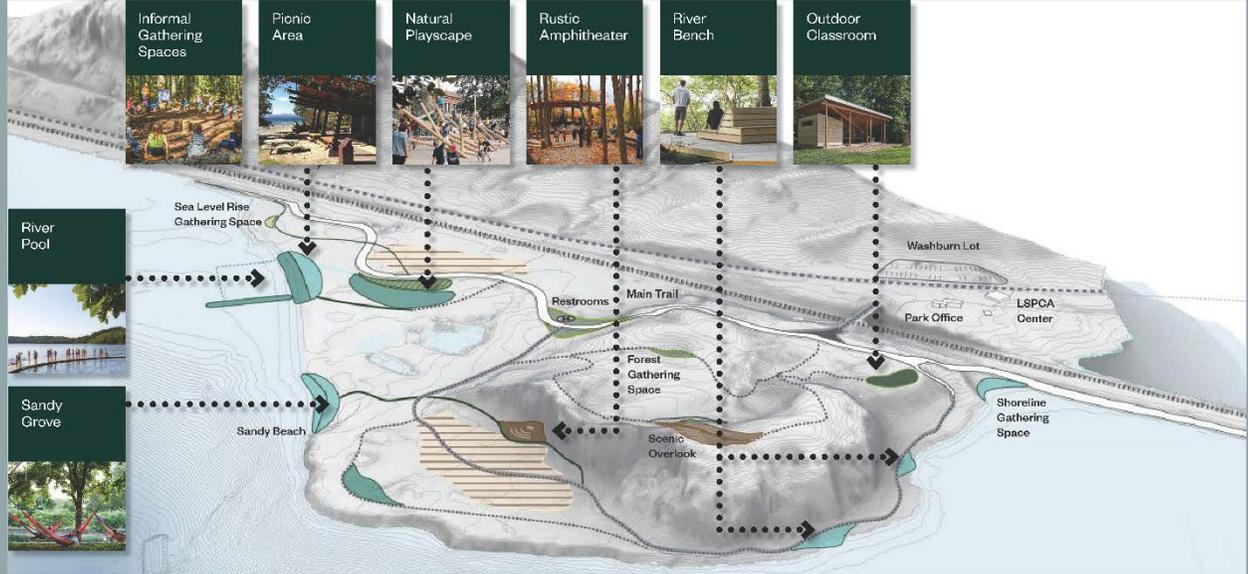
March 27, 2022 -- HHFT information table at Little Stony Point Citizens Association Maple Syrup Day

Committee

Outreach



Little Stony Point Proposed Amenities



Little Stony Point



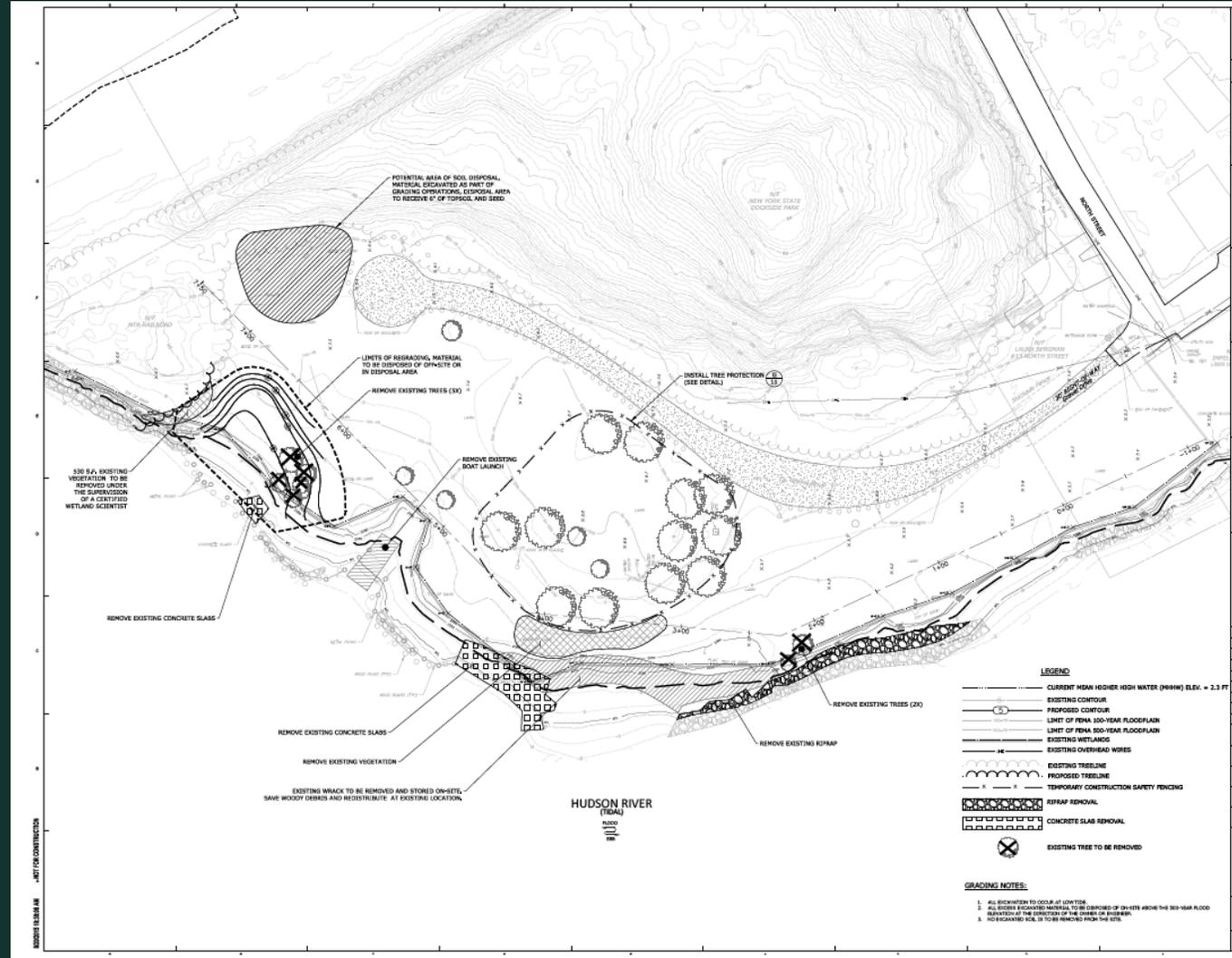


- ① ENTRY CAIRN
- ② PROPOSED LIVING SHORELINE
- ③ COMFORT STATIONS
- ④ ENTRY BANK
- ⑤ MEANDER
- ⑥ MAIN TRAIL
- ⑦ LAWN
- ⑧ ADA KAYAK LAUNCH
- ⑨ SEAT STEPS
- ⑩ MEANDER BRIDGE



HHFT Master Plan Concept

Dockside



OPRHP sustainable shorelines project



First Annual HHFT Community Day

SATURDAY, JUNE 25 1-4PM

283 ROUTE 9D | BEACON, NY | FUTURE SITE OF THE FJORD TRAIL VISITOR CENTER (FORMERLY DUTCHESS MANOR)

for the whole family
FUN

FREE

KIDS' ACTIVITIES

MUSIC

COMMUNITY ART

Homestyle Creamery
ICE CREAM



LEARN

about the Fjord Trail project and meet our team



Questions?
Email us at
info@hhft.org
hhft.org



Hudson Highlands
Fjord Trail

Join Us!
June 25
1-4pm



Ways to stay informed:

- Attend future presentations/workshops/events
- Host a presentation/workshop
- Visit hhft.org
- Subscribe to HHFT's newsletter
- Like and follow on social media:
 - Instagram: [fjord_trail](https://www.instagram.com/fjord_trail)
 - Facebook: [@HudsonFjord](https://www.facebook.com/HudsonFjord)
- Reach out: mmartin@hudsonfjordtrail.org



Thank you.

Questions?

